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Finns Planning
Separation from
Rule of RussiaAction of Swedish Party
at Helsingfors Causes
Anxiety in Petrograd

Helsingfors, Finland, May 21 (via Petrograd and London, May 22).—A congress of the Swedish political party, representing a majority of Finland's wealthiest and most influential classes, yesterday passed a resolution favoring a complete separation of the grand duchy of Finland from Russia. The resolution reads:

"The Finnish people has progressed so far in cultural and political development that Finland is entitled to make a demand to take her place as an independent state among the number of sovereign nations. This radical resolution is only the latest development of the separatist agitation which started after the revolution and which is occasioning anxiety in Petrograd and bringing out sharp comment in the Russian press."

Denies Suzerainty of Russia

The agitation began when Finland's new Premier, M. Tokoi, a Social Democrat, in a speech in Parliament used an expression implying that Russia had ceased to be a suzerain power and had become a friendly neighbor and possible ally. The temporary government in Petrograd, in restoring the Finnish constitution on March 29, claimed that the new Russian government had succeeded to all the rights of former Emperor Nicholas as grand duke; but the Helsingfors Parliament, during the debate on the food bill last week, declared it was open to question whether the claim of the temporary government was correct and whether, therefore, that government had inherited the former Emperor's rights to sanction Finnish parliamentary acts or to refuse its sanction to them.

In addition the Finnish government has suggested to Russia the immediate passage of measures increasing Finland's present measure of independence, but the temporary government holds that this action must await the meeting of the Constituent Assembly to draw up a constitution for the whole empire.

Claims Finnish Independence

Prominent among the advocates of complete Finnish independence is Professor Erich, who declares that Finland attained absolute independence by the fact of the revolution when the revolution occurred, adding that Finland's future relations with Russia would depend exclusively upon the will of the Finnish people and could be regulated only by voluntary Finnish-Russian treaties of an international character.

Although some members of the Swedish parties and of the Socialist party oppose the independence claims as premature and as likely to cause irritation in Russia, the only party solidly opposing the independence programme is the old Finnish Party, which always has been persistently Russophile.

Congress of Russians
Is Called for June 14

Workmen and Soldiers to Discuss War, Peace and Other Matters

Petrograd, May 22.—A general congress of workmen and soldiers from all Russia has been called for June 14 to discuss "war, peace, finances, land, labor, army organization and the constituent assembly." It was announced here to-day.

Minister of War and Marine Kerensky left the capital to-day for a brief visit to Finland. From there he will go direct to the front.

The purpose of Kerensky's visit to the front is to explain to the troops the exact governmental situation and to urge them to unyielding efforts against Germany.

Kerensky's 'Iron Hand'

Falls on Deserters

Thirty Submit Tamely to First Taste of New Russian Discipline

Petrograd, May 22.—The "iron hand" threatened by Kerensky, the War Minister, for restoring discipline in the army was first employed last night with success when two companies of a Finland regiment surrounded a large house in Ligovsky Street, where thirty armed deserters had secreted themselves.

Previously the temporary government had never dared to send deserters and pessimists had predicted a sanguinary collision when the initial attempt was made. But at the first display of the "iron hand" all thirty men surrendered tamely, and were marched off to the barracks.

Russia and America

Are One in War Aims, Terestchenko Cables

Washington, May 22.—Foreign Minister Terestchenko of Russia, in a cabled note to the State Department to-day says:

"By direction of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs," says the communication, "I hasten to say how highly the whole Russian democracy is inspired with the sentiment of full solidarity with the great Republic, which, true to its traditions of liberty, has espoused the cause of the coalition for the defence of justice and right."

"Like the United States, emancipated Russia is not seeking conquest or any covetous end in the present contest. The war is carried on to secure the freedom of nations and to achieve universal lasting peace effectively guaranteed against all later attacks."

"I am glad to find that those lofty principles which were so eloquently formulated in America are striking a warm, unanimous echo in free Russia, now mistress of her destiny."

20,000 Jews Freed

The "Jewish Daily News" of this city yesterday printed the following special cable message from its Petrograd correspondent:

"Twenty thousand Jews have been released by the order of the Provisional Government from Siberia. All these Jews were exiled for alleged 'political untrustworthiness.' Most of the exiles were torn away from their homes on the slightest of pretexts. The returning prisoners are homeless, as they largely hail from Lithuania and Poland, which are now in German possession. The Jewish Kehilla (Community) of Petrograd is preparing shelter and food for them."

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Von Hindenburg
Backs German
Conquest Plans

Copenhagen, May 22.—The pan-Germans have called Field Marshal von Hindenburg to their aid in the campaign for a peace programme "corresponding to Germany's sacrifices" and have received assurance from him of his sympathy with their aims. "I share your hopes for the fulfilment of your wishes for the future of the Fatherland," von Hindenburg is said to have replied to their greeting.

The field marshal's reply indicates that Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg and German military leaders are not in full accord regarding war aims, notwithstanding the Chancellor's statement to that effect in the Reichstag. The Chancellor's statement is flatly challenged by Director Zimmermann of the Berlin "Lokal Anzeiger," who denies that von Bethmann-Hollweg has any right to claim the war generals as the champions of his views on the political and economic aims of the war. Herr Zimmermann adds that the unity of views, according to his knowledge, applies only to military and strategic aims, on which the Chancellor had accepted the views of Hindenburg and Ludendorff, the morally responsible generals.

Herr Zimmermann goes even further in his criticism of the Chancellor, questioning the stability of the Bethmann bloc in the Reichstag and denying that the vote on the peace interpellation can be interpreted as a vote of confidence. The "Lokal Anzeiger," since it passed into the hands of a syndicate headed by captains of industry of the Rhine district and a former minister whom von Bethmann-Hollweg threw overboard, has ceased to be a subservient government organ, and is now in more or less consistent opposition to the Chancellor.

The paper urges that Germany state as clearly as possible her own peace conditions and offer Russia financial help after the war.

Berlin Paper Predicts
Separate Russian Peace

Copenhagen, May 22.—A prediction that Russia will soon accept a separate peace with Germany is made by the Berlin "Vossische Zeitung" to-day. The paper urges that Germany state as clearly as possible her own peace conditions and offer Russia financial help after the war.

Hollweg and Czernin
Agree About Poland

Berlin, May 21 (via London May 22).—It is learned on good authority that a complete agreement has been reached between Germany and Austria on the Polish question, as the result of the conference at Great Headquarters between Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg and Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister. Count Czernin returned to Vienna to-day, after a visit to the Western front.

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